

August 17, 2012

# Weekly Views

Commissioner Bruce Lemmon hosted a tour and luncheon at the Indiana State Prison for Scott Waddell, Commissioner of the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV), and key staff from the BMV and PEN Products. The focus of the tour was the Digital License Plate Operation. The offenders in the Culinary Arts program prepared lunch for the guests. Superintendent Wilson was honored to be able to assist with the event, which demonstrated how state government works together for key projects.

The Indiana Canine Assistance Network (ICAN) will be celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year with a "Decade of Dogs" art show and auction at the Indiana Roof Ballroom in November. The ICAN handlers and other offenders from the Indiana Women's Prison,

Correctional Industrial Facility and Plainfield Correctional Facility are creating the artwork to be auctioned. Paintings, crochet art, poetry, collages and other forms of art are in progress. This type of event allows the artist from all the three facilities to practice their passions of creative arts and support the ICAN program.

The Correctional Industrial Facility's (CIF) Therapeutic Community (TC) and Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) unit raised \$2068 during a Papa John's pizza sale. At the request of the TC offenders, \$1034 went to Life after Meth program in Vincennes, which provides an educational curriculum on the harmful effects of meth to offenders in IDOC facilities. The PLUS unit requested that their \$1034 be donated to Prevent Child Abuse Indiana, an organization dedicated to the prevention of child abuse through education. CIF would like to give a big thank you to Papa John's who made this fundraiser possible.

New Castle Correctional Facility (NCCF) donated \$3000 to the Henry County Community Foundation in support of New Castle's Little League and their trip to Williamsport, PA as a finalist in the Little League World Series. This money will be matched by the Foundation. NCCF also donated \$5000 to the Henry County United Fund to start the Annual Campaign.

Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) K-9 Handler Misty Stamper-Reger and her K-9 Debo were honored during a ceremony conducted in conjunction with a K-9 Operations training event. Aggression K-9 Debo was retired in June after providing eight years of dedicated and meritorious service. With the retirement of Debo, Officer Stamper-Reger will no longer serve as a K-9 handler. She was honored at the ceremony for her outstanding performance and lasting dedication to the facility's elite K-9 Operation. (see photo right of Misty and Debo with Lieutenant Daniel Mockler, PCF K-9 Field Commander)

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility hosted the Central and Southern Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) team for their quarterly meeting. Dr. Bradley Huffey, from Corizon, provided the training with a presentation on "Crisis Intervention" followed by a team building facility tour. The session also featured an interactive review of CISM intervention activations. If you are interested in being part of this important team please contact any CISM member at your facility.

Staff and offenders at Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) PLUS program are literally reaping what they sowed! WCC Superintendent Levenhagen has designated a large piece of land behind the facility's Administration Building for the PLUS Garden, and the offenders have been tending it all summer. Their first crop was donated to the local Food Pantry, where the fresh vegetables will be added to the grocery sacks of food given to the needy. The PLUS Garden produced 12-inch zucchinis, cucumbers, peppers and kohlrabi.



The Honorable Theresa Springmann, a judge from the U.S. Federal Court in Fort Wayne, and her staff toured the Indiana State Prison (ISP). The mission of the tour was to educate and give an understanding of how ISP provides daily activities to the offender population. The members of the tour group were very impressed with all of the staff's professionalism in what can be a very frustrating and challenging environment. It was clear to the group that the IDOC mission and vision is being carried out quite ably at Michigan City!

Miami Correctional Facility's American Legion Post 555 has collected 179,220 soda pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. The pop tabs were counted among the 19 million that have been collected for all of Miami and Howard Counties according to the Kokomo Tribune.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) Lockup and for supporting Commissioner Lemmon, Chief of Staff Copeland, Deputy Commissioner Koester, and Deputy Commissioner Osburn. Together we raised over \$2600 that will help MDA in its mission of curing muscular dystrophy, ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) and related diseases by funding worldwide research, providing comprehensive health care and support services, advocacy and education.